

THE HOME, ITS PROBLEMS, AND ITS INTERESTS

WOMAN'S INQUIRY COLUMN

Letters to the Woman's Inquiry Column are invited. They should be addressed to Editor Woman's Inquiry Column, Washington Times, and should reach the office before Saturday to insure an answer the following week. Each letter must bear the full and correct signature and the address of the sender, not for publication, but merely as an evidence of good faith. Unsigned letters received will be ignored.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

Kindly publish a verse appropriate to inclose to a young man on his twenty-first birthday. BETTY.

Here's health to you,
And wealth to you,
And the best that life can give to you!
May fortune still be kind to you,
And life be long and good to you,
Is the wish of a true friend to you.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

Kindly publish something to clarify coffee. Eggs are not always available, and without them coffee is not fit to drink. HOUSEKEEPER.

Instead of using the white of eggs to clarify coffee, drop a pinch of salt into the coffee pot before adding the water, and you will have clear, bright, well-settled coffee.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

I am going to entertain my Sunday school class of little girls at my home. Can you suggest anything in the way of a game to amuse them for about an hour? TEACHER.

"Memory" is both an entertaining and instructive game. To make this game a success a big table in the dining room is necessary. On it are placed innumerable little articles. The top of the table should be covered with different familiar things of everyday use—a cup, knife, fork, napkin, plate, spoon, etc. The children are formed in a line and marched around the table three times, telling them to look hard. After the third march around the table three times they go back to the other room, the door is closed and they are given a pencil and paper and each child must write down the name of every article she can remember. Allow about fifteen minutes for this part of the game.

The papers are collected and the hostess compares the papers with a correct list, which she has prepared, and the child who remembers most of the things is given a prize. A consolation prize may be provided for the most unsuccessful contestant.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

Kindly publish something in your column for darkening the eyebrows and lashes. BLONDE.

Make a solution of one pint of rose water, seven drams of powdered India ink and four drams of gum arabic. Apply this once a week or oftener if necessary.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

Kindly tell me how to reduce my bust. A. S.

Bathe the bust every day with clear alcohol or warm vinegar. Applications of cold water are also good.

Editor Woman's Inquiry Column:

Kindly tell me how to clean a pink figured dress. I do not want to wash it in water. Which would be better—pink gloves, slippers and hose or white? MAE.

If you wish to dry clean the dress use potato flour and set in the dark over night. If not satisfactory you had better wash the dress in bran water. Boil two quarts of bran in two gallons of water for half an hour. Leave it until it is cold and then strain through a thick cloth, pressing hard. Wash the cloth in this, using neither soap nor starch. Iron while damp over several thicknesses of flannel. This makes the cloth look like new.

The pink gloves and shoes would be very pretty, but it depends upon the trimmings of the dress.

THE BRAND OF "OLD MAID."

Stung by the taunt of "old maid," many a woman plunges herself into a veritable maelstrom of desperate married misery.

Because somebody made dark allusions to "an old bachelor whom nobody would have," countless men have proposed rashly and on the spur of the moment to a pretty housemaid, says Anselmy Kennedy, writing of "Marriage of Desperation."

In all the trials and tribulations which beset a bachelor his friends play the part of Greek chorus, and reiterate with a weary lack of originality, "Take a wife."

Should a young woman be rich, poor, miserable, happy, sickly or strong, everybody dwells with monotonous insistence on that one theme, "Why don't you find a husband?" Her advisers do not for a moment suggest by this one individual man specially suited to her circumstances, condition and temperament. They prescribe a generic husband as one should say to a shoeless man, "Buy some boots."

Mothers who have never taken any social pains to insure a supply of suitors to their daughter-dowered households preach incessantly at their girls the gospel of settling themselves in life. In vain the daughters point out their circumscribed circle of masculine twin souls. Matrimony, like matrimony, is supposed to rain down from heaven in some mysterious manner unknown in real life, but copyrighted through the centuries by slyly mischievous proverb-makers under the guise of "Mr. Right," who is sure to turn up at the propitious moment. Thus many a delightful girl is shipwrecked on the rocks of a marriage of desperation. She "settles herself"—but haphazard, and not happily. There ought to be an act of parliament regulating the making of proverbs. Centuries ago certain sets of men bent on mischief invented a series of plausible sounding sentences to the effect that wife spells domestic comfort and happy home. She may, but again she may not. Often a youth who makes a marriage of desperation to escape comfortless, slovenly lodgings, with a surfeit of badly-cooked steaks and chops, frequently selects as mate a young woman even more inefficient at housekeeping than his late landlady. He has exchanged a temporary inconvenience for a lifelong incubus.

Many women make marriages of desperation. Girls who cannot get on with their mothers jump to the conclusion—thanks both to those mischievous old

proverb purveyors of the past and of the modern penny novelette—that it is much easier to live in harmony with a man than a woman. Sometimes it is. But this widespread belief as an infallible doctrine is apt to prove one of the most indigestible ingredients of the marriage of desperation.

A woman finds her first gray hair. In panic she accepts the first man who proposes. A large number of men marry because they are bored, find life insufficiently dull, or are lonely in the evenings. "Anybody is better company than nobody" is the maliciously old proverb which crops up in their minds. It is like the story of the millionaire whose wife was extremely fond of society. "Are you going to entertain much this season?" asked a friend. "No," he replied. "We are going to keep on inviting a lot of people to the house, but I don't expect to be more entertained than usual." Similarly, the person who feels dull, and marries somebody else who is dull, in the vain hope of finding entertainment for life, furnishes a most unprofitable but very common form of the marriage of desperation.

The unattached and orphaned spinster, with no home or near relatives, grows tired of wandering about from hotel and lodging to the strongholds of the paying guest. She dreams of the "sheltered life." "A woman needs a man to protect and look after her," she argues, with the echoes of many perjuror proverbs reverberating in her ears. Some women do. Others are more than capable of looking after themselves. Saturated with schemes of old superstitions, the helpless type of spinster, instead of analyzing the situation, and realizing that her need is to marry a protective, paternal type of man, conceives issues, and marries—just a man. Rushing into matrimony of the desperation order, she has lighted on an individual type of man who has neither the desire nor the intention of constituting her shelter. He expects to be "looked after" himself, in the same type of man who, in the name of matrimony, is a shelter for a woman who has neither the desire nor the intention of constituting her shelter. He expects to be "looked after" himself, in the same type of man who, in the name of matrimony, is a shelter for a woman who has neither the desire nor the intention of constituting her shelter.

"I suppose they thought it was my husband," was the satirical explanation of a woman who was called upon in court to furnish a reason as to why nobody went to her assistance when a passerby struck her and stole her purse. This cynic doubtless had been the victim of a proverb-inspired faith in man as a universal provider of a sheltered life for femininity. Many a man does lavish the most tender and protective love on a woman, but it is not because he is a man and she is a woman. It is because he happens to be built on those lines and she chances to be the fortunate woman who rouses his chivalrous and sheltering instincts. But such ideal mating is rarely compassed by the haphazard and far too common marriage of desperation.

In the Name of Sense, that good common sense of which all of us have a share, how can you continue to buy ordinary soda crackers, stale and dusty as they must be, when for 5¢ you can get

Uneeda Biscuit

fresh from the oven, protected from dirt by a package the very beauty of which makes you hungry.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY



EMPIRE EVENING GOWN.

Empire styles have won the day, at least, in evening gowns. Nine out of every ten are built on these lines and are really very lovely and graceful. A decidedly charming creation of this type is of heavy silk green crepe de chine. About the décolleté neck there is a shaped empiement of green chiffon plaited with gold threads and embroidered with chiffon roses. Brown velvet ribbon borders the top and also forms the band on the unique sleeves, which are plain chiffon.

Love à la Mode.

The Magazine Heroine sighed as she put her head on the shoulder of the Magazine Hero. "Bilby," she said, "where did you get that hat?" He smiled.

"Turn over to page 116 of the advertising section, and you will see. The finest hat for the money in the world. And yours?"

"At Madame Ribon's, the milliner's. Her ad, is on page 41. Front section."

He gazed at her a moment in speechless admiration, at her faultless shirtwaist (notice of sale was given in these columns last month), at her wonderfully hanging skirt (see McGregor's display ad, second inside cover) and at her neat shoes (colored insert). Then he said: "Dolly, you are all to the good. There is nothing about you that I don't like." She tossed her head (McBurn's hair-dressing establishment) proudly as she nestled close to his waistcoat (Banger's tailoring emporium, page 4).

"I can say the same thing of you," she whispered (see to Jackson's for engagement wedding rings—page 128, "for, dearest, have we not both of us been tried and tested by the public long enough to be warranted?")—Tom Mason, in the Delinquent.

Breakfast Food Advice.

Always cook cereals in a double boiler. Soaking over night in the water in which they are to be cooked will prove a timesaver and give you a delicious dish as well.

The uncooked cereals are the wise woman's choice when she has no maid. Left-over cereals may be covered with cold water in the double boiler and kept in a cool place until the next day. Bring slowly to a boil, cook as usual, adding as much more of the cereal as required. Many cereals are enjoyed cold. Cook the afternoon before, mold in custard cups and set in the ice box. Add salt just before cooking begins. All cereals are richer if a little milk is added to the water in which they are cooked.

EVERYTHING MUSICAL

F. DROOP & SONS CO.
925 Penn. Ave. N. W.

85c Doz. for 12 Cabinet Fotos
Special Offer for 30 Days
FABER, 802 7th Street

Out of Paper and Envelopes?

—Then take advantage of this extra special bargain. 5¢ gives finest quality Writing Paper, and 5 packages of Envelopes to match. Total value, \$2.00. Take them off our hands at..... 50¢

R. P. ANDREWS PAPER CO.,
Incorporated,
1411 F Street N. W.

75c Watch Crystals, 10c. 10c Main Springs, 75c.
ALL WORK GUARANTEED.
A. KAHN, 935 F St. N. W.

One pair of glasses 50¢
near and far.
SPECIAL \$1
price..... 10% discount
on oculists' prescriptions.
A. KAHN, 935 F St. N. W.

Woodward & Lothrop
New York—Washington—Paris.

Until further notice store will open at 8:30 A. M. and close at 6:30 P. M.

Apparel for Southern Wear

WE are showing in various departments articles of apparel and accessories appropriate for Palm Beach, Ormonde, St. Augustine, and other Southern resorts. Included are dresses of very sheer materials, embracing the best productions of foreign and domestic modistes; Tailored Gowns and White Serge Suits, in long and short coat effects, suitable for outing service; New Walking Skirts of voiles, Panamas, and taffetas; Hand-embroidered Linen Blouses, Exquisite Hand-made French Lingerie Waists, for evening, afternoon, and promenade, of French and Persian lawn, batiste, dotted Swiss, handkerchief linen; also many new models in silk and crepe de chine; Shawls for traveling and veranda; Gloves for riding, driving, golfing, and motoring; Fashionable Hosiery of silk, lisle, and cotton; also a variety of styles in Patent leather, Black and Tan Russia Calfskin and White Canvas Ties and Pumps.

Also dainty fabrics for lingerie gowns, embracing embroidered batiste and handkerchief linen, crystalline, efileure or printed voile, printed organdie lisse, fancy woven French voiles, printed French mousseline, Banzai silk, Irish dimities, French and English piques, and exclusive designs in double-width all-overs suitable for separate waists and entire gowns, especially appropriate for Southern wear.

Dress Goods Department
(Second Floor, G Street).

The New Spring of 1907

High-grade Wash Fabrics

WE are showing advance Foreign and Domestic Novelties, including in part:

French Printed Organdies,
French Printed Efileure,
French Printed Mousseline,
Checked and Embroidered Voiles,
Printed Belfast Dimities,
In a Large Variety of Floral Printings on a Small White Check Ground.
Also a Variety of Half-Silk Fabrics, Such as Banzai Silk, Mikado Silk, Mousseline de Soie, and Printed Silk Organdie.

David and John Anderson's
Ginghams, in Checks, Stripes, Plaids, and Solid Colors.
Also Printed Batiste Lawns,
Printed Percales, Etc.
Also a Large Variety of Domestic and Foreign Ginghams.

These materials are the new 1907 styles, and the designs are new and beautiful. This early display will interest those desiring these dainty fabrics now so fashionable for evening gowns, and also those who contemplate going to Palm Beach and other Southern resorts. It also affords an opportunity for the selection of the choicest designs, which are always among the first shown, and often not duplicated.

Woodward & Lothrop

STREET SUIT OF BROWN CLOTH.

An attractive model for a dressy little street suit is here pictured, the design being practical for either cloth or velvet. The skirt was a gored circular one, and was cut in ankle length and trimmed with strappings of inch-wide flat silk braid and buttons matching the material in color. The coat had a postillion back, which was held in place by the fitted girde of the cloth, which was, however, separate from the jacket except across the center back. Braid and buttons were also used to trim the jacket, the fancy collar showing inset pieces of cream-white cloth heavily braided with brown soutache. The little vest was also braided in brown, and the undersleeves of heavy white lace were gathered in above the elbow by a band of brown velvet ribbon tied in a bow at the outer arm.

A CHAFING DISH LUNCHEON

By CORNELIA C. BEDFORD.

A luncheon for a few friends with the chafing dish as the central point of interest is one of the fads of the day; and to the hostess who has a taste for dainty cooking it offers an opportunity to display her attainments in that direction. If she has mastered the fundamental rules of the art and is able to originate some special combination of seasonings or flavorings she is sure to attain a reputation, making her the envy of her circle.

At a meal in which such table cookery is emphasized at least two dishes should be prepared before the guests, and, if desired, a portion of each course may be whole or partly cooked in this way. For the hostess who wishes to serve a pretty luncheon for half a dozen guests the following is suggested:

Oyster Cocktails
Scrambled Eggs à la Creole
Finger Rolls.
Chicken Liver à la Supreme
Saratoga Potatoes
Cream Cheese Salad. Bar Le Duc.
Orange Ice. Fancy Cakes.
Coffee or Frothed Chocolate.

Order thirty good sized oysters for the first course. Strain the liquid and put aside. Pick over, rinse and drain the oysters then stand on ice to chill. Mix together two scant teaspoonsful of horse radish (the freshly grated if possible) fifteen drops of tabasco, one tablespoonful of tarragon or plain vinegar, three scant tablespoonfuls of lemon juice, one tablespoonful and a half of Worcestershire, one tablespoonful and a half of tomato catsup, and a half teaspoonful of salt. Just before serving add a half cupful of the oyster liquid and divide between six glasses. To each add five oysters a moment before the meal is announced.

Look over the recipes for the chafing dish mixtures and prepare two trays, one for each course. On these place all the ingredients for each dish, measuring and preparing them, as far as possible, for instant use. For the first dish mix together in a small bowl two tablespoonfuls of chopped green peppers, one tablespoonful of tomato catsup and a half teaspoonful of onion juice. In a larger bowl beat slightly together six eggs and a half cupful of cream. On other tiny dishes place a tablespoonful of butter, a half teaspoonful of salt mixed with half as much paprika, three tablespoonfuls of grated cheese. At the proper time put the blazer over the lighted lamp, drop in the butter, when very hot turn in the eggs, add the seasoning and begin to stir. As this thickens turn in the green pepper mixture and stir until thick and creamy, then slip delicately on a hot water pail and put out the light. Serve spoonfuls on crisped wafers, sprinkling each portion with a little of the grated cheese. With the course serve hot finger rolls.

On the second tray have a bowl containing six chicken livers which have been quartered, washed, scaled for two minutes and drained; a couple of fresh mushrooms peeled and cut quite fine; a tablespoonful of butter; a tablespoonful of flour; a mixture of half a cupful of rich milk and chicken broth; a scant spoonful of lemony juger and pepper. Melt the butter in the blazer; when hot add the livers and stir occasionally until browned. Dredge over the flour, stir until absorbed, then gradually add the liquid mixture. When thickened add the mushrooms and salt and pepper to taste. Stir, cover, and cook for ten minutes. Add the lemon juice and serve. As this takes longer to cook than the first dish, it may be started while the plates for the preceding course are being removed. With it serve Saratoga potatoes, which have been spread on a flat pan and reheated in a warm oven and plain brown bread sandwiches.

Early in the day pick apart and wash a head of lettuce, then stand it in ice water until crisped. Drain, wrap in a wet cloth and put aside until needed. Mash two cream cheeses with a fork; add a few grains of cayenne and enough thick cream to slightly moisten, then

Charming House Plants.

Bulbs, especially lilies, make charming house plants, doubly charming in that they thrive on little care, and have so few of the enemies which plague woody plants.

The scarlet anemylis, of which there are half a dozen sorts, each sufficiently gorgeous, show handsome long green leaves the year round, nearly as decorative as those of the costly dracenas; then in early spring it sends up a tall stalk crowned with three or four truly royal blossoms. It has the advantage of chesques. Fifty cents buys a bulb certain to flower.

Plant it in a six-inch pot full of rich earth, and fertilize well. The bulb lives on from year to year, sending up richer blossoms each season. For a bulb which grows in a pot, a small bulb which may be separated and brought to flowering in three years more.

Do not have the offsets around the parent bulb. Either wait for the child to without ever becoming its equal. Japan lilies, Easter lilies, tulips, hyacinths, tuberoses, the many-hued sage gladioli, all thrive in pots and can be made to supply a success of bloom.

Bulbs of every sort should be kept dark for some weeks after planting. Aside from that the care of them is so easy that a child or a simpleton scarcely can go astray. All need pot room, a rich earth and an even temperature. Pots may be kept in cellar, or bath room, or kitchen until almost ready to flower. Then they will take their place in the window.

Every woman should be cautious against taking any preparation of arsenic internally except under the advice of a physician. The harm wrought by it when the system does not need it is incalculable. To keep the complexion fair and brilliant there is nothing equal to the daily bath. The essential thing for health is to open the pores of the skin and cleanse it by the free use of soap and water, followed by abundant friction. Tincture of benzoin makes a delightful bath-soothing agent, but, like other good things of the sort, must not be used too freely. Ten minutes is quite long enough for any kind of a bath, and the cold plunge should be limited to two or three minutes at the longest. Bathing frequently is a wonderful corrective for the morbid conditions induced by brain exhaustion and want of exercise. A camphorated bath is tonic and refreshing and is made by dropping slowly into the warm water sufficient of the following lotion to make the water milky and fragrant: One ounce of tincture of camphor, one-half ounce of tincture of benzoin, two ounces of Cologne.

For the Toilet.

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CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. Fitch